

From Persia-

2507

LECTURES

ON

THE SITUATION IN THE FAR EAST

AND

TWO THOUSAND MILES ON HORSEBACK ACROSS
PERSIA AND ASIATIC TURKEY

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THE purpose of the lecturer is to present to the American public the main features of the Problem of Asia, which is daily pressing upon the attention of Christendom, and is now the pivot of European politics. The lecturer may be pardoned if he lays claim to have enjoyed special advantages which make him fit for the undertaking of the task before him, for he is not only by birth an Asiatic, and a member of the Japanese nation, which is certainly destined to play an important rôle in the Asiatic affairs, but he has lived among the Chinese for some years, and has seen the countries, and come in contact with different peoples, of Asia by his travels in 1899-1900. If the lecturer succeeds in making himself intelligible, and at the same time interesting to the American audience, that is the debt he owes to this country, for herein are his Alma Maters, and America, therefore, is his second home.

The first subject of the lecturer, *i. e.*, Situation in the Far East, is treated in two lectures: 1. Japan and Russia; 2. China Problem. The second subject is also treated in two lectures: 1. A Thousand Miles on Horseback Across Persia, or Travel from Tokio to Teheran; 2. A Thousand Miles on Horseback Across Asiatic Turkey, or Travel from Teheran to Tokio, *via* Asia Minor, Egypt, and India. The division of the Travel Lecture into two, although they form one whole, is deemed necessary, especially when it is illustrated, for it is impossible to treat the subject in a satisfactory way within an hour or two, as it must include, beside the explanation of the pictures on the screen, the description of the state of politics, commerce, religion, customs and manners, of the peoples visited. The lecturer has brought about 200 slides, which illustrate the places he visited and the life of Japan, so that, if desired, he is ready to deliver illustrated lectures. But the lecturer begs to be clearly understood that nothing is more repugnant to his sense of honor and taste than to be counted among those showmen, who go round as "lecturers," by simply exhibiting pictures, and catering to the curiosity of the vulgar, and that, however far below the mark he may fall, what the lecturer aims to realize is the lesson taught by that great master of art, Shakespeare, how to instruct as well as interest human beings. The worth of these lectures, if there be any, must then be sought in the subject-matter of the lectures. The pictures count but little to the lecturer; but the undertaking of the travel itself has cost the Formosan government of Japan over 10,000 *yen*, or American \$5,000.

The above lectures are adapted to University, or College audiences, to Literary Societies and Clubs, as well as to Chautauqua Assemblies and what are commonly called popular audiences. The lecturer will have the pleasure, Professor G. E. Vincent writes him, of appearing before the great Chautauqua of New York, in the coming summer.

The following contains a brief statement of the past work of the lecturer, and of his travels, with some comments of capable and critical judges who

have already heard his first two lectures. The second has not yet been delivered anywhere in this country, but is to be delivered in the near future at Madison and elsewhere.

I. Biography of the Lecturer, and a Short Account of His Travel.

Here the lecturer will be permitted to quote what Madison papers, the Cardinal and Madison Democrat, said on the matter and about his travel.

"The lecturer, Dr. Iyenaga, recently of the foreign office of Japan, was born in Kiushiu in 1863. In 1884 he came to this country to receive his education. He pursued his collegiate course in Oberlin college, Ohio, and was graduated from the college with the degree of Ph. B. in 1887. While a student at Oberlin college, at the Oratorical contest of the college in 1886, he carried off the first honor, and represented the college in the interstate Oratorical contest of Ohio of the same year. The following three years Mr. Iyenaga spent in the Johns Hopkins University, pursuing the post graduate course in History and Political Economy under the direction of Dr. Ely, and the late Dr. H. B. Adams, receiving the degree of Ph. D. in 1890. His graduating thesis on the "The Constitutional Development of Japan" was published in one of the Johns Hopkins University Studies. During his stay in Baltimore, on the occasion of the celebration by the Johns Hopkins University of the Promulgation of Japanese Constitution, he delivered a speech before the faculty and the university students, before Baltimore citizens and the Japanese Minister and his suite, who had come from Washington to attend the ceremony. After his graduation from the Johns Hopkins, at Chautauqua, N. Y., the headquarters of Chautauqua assemblies, and at some other summer assemblies, Dr. Iyenaga delivered his lectures on "New Japan" and "Buddha and Buddhism." He visited Madison on his way home and was one of the speakers at the Monona Lake Assembly in 1890.

"For some years after his return in 1890 he was Professor in the Waseda University and lecturer in the Keiogijuku University, both private institutions in Tokio, and from 1894 to 1897 he was Professor in the Higher Commercial College of the Japanese Government. In the latter year, he was transferred to the Department of Foreign Affairs, and served the Government as one of the secretaries in the Bureau of Translation. In 1899 he was sent as the Commissioner of the Japanese Government of Formosa to Persia, Turkey, India, China, and other Asiatic sea boards, to investigate matters of interest to the Formosan Government.

"Starting from Taipeh on May 15, 1899, and touching at Hongkong, Singapore, and Colombo, he reached Bombay. Then he crossed the Arabian Sea and the Persian Gulf, and, landing at Bushire, he traversed the Persian Empire from the southern port to Resht near the Caspian Sea for about a thousand miles on horseback. During his visit to Teheran, he was honored with an audience with the Shah. Crossing the Caspian to Baku,

he traversed the Russian Trans-Caucasus to Batoum, thence sailing on the Black Sea he went to Constantinople. From the capital of the Sultan, through the Sea of Marmora, and Strait of Dardanelles, he landed at Smyrna on the Aegean. Spending some time in Konia, in the center of Asia Minor, he mounted again, and made another thousand miles horse back ride through the plateau of Western Anatolia, the valleys of the Euphrates and Tigris, and the mountains of Northern Syria, touching at Kaisarieh, Sivas, Malatia, Diarbekr and Aleppo. Embarking from Alexandretta, and viewing the beautiful coast of the Holy Land and calling at such historic places as Mersina, Sidon, Tyre, Jaffa, he reached Port Said. Thence he made a short visit to Cairo and ascended the great pyramid of Ghizeh, and entered its mysterious chambers. From Port Said, through the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean, he came back to Bombay, whence he began his Indian travel. Visiting the matchless architectural remains of the Moguls in Agra and sacred temples of Benares, he reached Calcutta. From the capital of India, crossing the Bay of Bengal, he visited Rangoon in Burmah and on his way home, calling at Swatow and Amoy on the southeast coast of China, arrived at Taipeh on March 1, 1900.

"The period spent in traveling was 289 days; the distance traversed was 22,505 miles; the countries visited were Persia, Asiatic Turkey, Egypt, India and a part of Burmah and of China. During his travels he scaled the noted Khotals of Southern Persia, and crossed the Euphrates, Tigris, Nile, Ganges and Irawaddy. The hardships and perils he experienced were many; once he was seized by a Turkish brigand; at another time pursued by a band of Arab marauders; in the Elburz mountains he was caught in a trap of robbers; at Malatia he fell a victim to malaria; at Diarbekr he lay on a lonely bed of sickness. During all these trials he studied man, the different peoples of Asia, their political institutions, their religions, their customs and manners, their commerce and trade, their future."

II. Comments on the Lectures, Already Delivered, by Professor Turner, Professor Reinsch, and Professor Haskins, of the University of Wisconsin.

Professor Frederick J. Turner in a letter addressed to Professor J. H. Woodburn, of Indiana University, which is herein printed by permission, said:

"My Dear Woodburn:

"Iyenaga has just given us two lectures on the Situation in the Far East, under the auspices of the Department of Political Science, which has a special lecture fund at its disposal. These lectures have been attended by large and interested audiences, and there is but one judgment in the matter—they have been *decidedly* successful. Iyenaga has lost none of the oratorical gifts with which you are familiar, and he has

gained much in maturity and careful observation. The presentation which he gives of the situation in China is particularly valuable, coming as it does from a Japanese, trained to use his eyes, and understand the things in which Americans would be particularly interested. While here he has gone carefully over the recent European literature on conditions in the Orient, so that to his own observation and interest he has added this fund of European information.

"While the lectures are thoroughly substantial, they are at the same time sufficiently touched up by Iyenaga's sense of humor and love of the picturesque to make them go even with a more popular audience. We hope to have one or two more lectures from him before he leaves us. You will make no mistake if you make a place for him on your program.

Cordially yours,

FREDERICK J. TURNER."

"Madison, Jan. 30, 1902."

Professor P. S. Reinsch, makes the following comments:

"Dr. T. Iyenaga has just given two lectures on Oriental Politics before the students of the University of Wisconsin under the auspices of the Department of Political Science. The opportunities for direct observation which Dr. Iyenaga has enjoyed had excited high expectations which were more than realized by his clear presentation of Oriental affairs. What made the lectures especially interesting to the audience was the fact that the lecturer drew very largely on his own original knowledge of the situation. Extended travel in the Orient, as well as his connection with the Japanese administration, have certainly offered him unusual opportunities of judging Oriental affairs; his Western education has given him the necessary detachment to view their outlines clearly and to mark their cardinal features; his truly artistic temperament enables him to avoid arid generalities and to present Oriental life in all the concreteness and vividness of actual experience; while his rare command of the English language, and his vein of humor and satire make his lectures completely enjoyable. Altogether the writer may say that he has never heard an Oriental scholar and speaker who could so clearly and pleasantly interpret the rich and fascinating life of the Orient to a Western audience."

Professor C. H. Haskins, Professor Elect of Harvard University, says:

"Dr. T. Iyenaga has just completed two most successful lectures before our students of the University of Wisconsin upon the political situation in the Far East. Dr. Iyenaga is entirely familiar with his subject, and presents it in an interesting and effective manner. Having known him for the past fifteen years, I can commend him cordially to those who may wish to arrange for lectures in his field."

III. Professor R. T. Ely's Recommndatory Letter and Professor G. E. Vincent's Words of Permission.

Professor R. T. Ely says:

"To Whom it May Concern:

"It gives me pleasure to commend Dr. Iyenaga as a lecturer on Oriental Topics. He has recently given lectures in Madison, which it was not my privilege to hear. The reports of these lectures, however, which have reached me, convince me that he achieved very marked success.

"Dr. Iyenaga belonged to my class in the Johns Hopkins University and made a favorable impression upon me. I remember in particular an oration which he delivered, which produced a marked impression. Every one was pleased, and it was the general opinion that he had oratorical gifts. I have also heard very favorable reports of addresses which he delivered ten years, or more, ago before Chautauqua assemblies. Since that time he has had unusual opportunities for travel and observation in the Orient, and I am sure that he is now even a better lecturer than he was when I heard him.

RICHARD T. ELY."

"February 4, 1902."

Professor G. E. Vincent of the University of Chicago, gives the lecturer permission to say that those who are desirous to know more about him may refer to the Professor, who is at the same time the Principal of Instruction at Chautauqua Assembly, N. Y.

In case of illustrated lectures, the lantern, and the man who handles it well, will have to be provided by the places which engage the lecturer. And he would prefer to show the pictures after the lectures, for they are likely to detract the attention of the audience from the subject matter of the lectures. The synopsis of the lectures can also be forwarded if desired. The present address of the lecturer is 226 West Gilman street, Madison, Wisconsin.

The lecturer adds with pleasure that he has received an invitation to deliver some of his lectures before the University of Indiana.

TRAVEL IN PERSIA, TURKEY IN ASIA, INDIA AND EGYPT.

